

thus dispensing with previous scholarly works which had traditionally downplayed the extent and significance of child labour during the industrial revolution. In another finding professor Humphreys demonstrates that child labour extended beyond mills and was pervasively used in agriculture, which has previously been not realised in scholarly studies. She, in addition to this demonstrates that child labour was fundamental in the small scale manufacturing sector, where factories "always absorbed a larger share ~~proportion~~ of child labour than of adult labour force - roughly twice as large" (Humphreys Ibid 2012 p10). Here's just one example she cites:

"When I was 6 years and 2 months old I was sent off to work. Funny that only just over 6 years of age! This was the end of February, or early March, and I do not think I shall ever forget those long hungry days in the fields --- My work was about a mile away from home, and I had for wages 18d a week and my dinner on Saturdays (which) made the Sunday the greatest day of the week --- When the barley was up and the scaring of crows was unnecessary, I had to mind a flock of a 100 sheep --- The sense of loneliness and responsibility frequently overcame me, and in my desperation I would shout mother! mother! Mother! But mother could not hear: she was away that time working in the hayfield 2 miles away --- Then I had the job of minding the sheep, sheep will keep about 40 pigs. Pigs are very different animals to mind from sheep. Sheep will keep together: every pig will go its own way careless of the others. The worry, the trouble, ---" (William Arndt, born 1860, "Recollections" pp 13-14, cited in Humphreys Ibid 2012).

The final but 1 instnr absolutely relevant quote from one of Humphreys' 600 autobiographies is